# DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY GCSE

## What are the key features?

Examination (50% of GCSE)

1 exam paper (2 hours).

Theory on paper covers:

- Core technical principles
  *20 marks- multiple choice and short answer questions*
- Specialist technical principles
  *30 marks- short answer questions and one extended.*
- Designing & making principles
  *50 marks- short and extended answer questions and a 12 mark design question.*

Non-exam Assessment (50% of GCSE)

30-35 hours.

The tasks will be released by AQA on 1st June in year 10 and submitted in May the following year.

A design and make task will include:

- Investigation
- Designing
- Making
- Analysing & Evaluating

(In the spirit of iterative design- it means that work does not need to be done in this order)

Students will produce a working prototype and

As the non-exam assessment tasks are released in the June of Year 10, from September to June in Year 10 there will be a focus on learning the theory knowledge for the examination and a focus on the non-exam assessment in Year 11. Having said this there will however still be preparation for both sections in both Year 10 and 11.

## What particular skills are required to succeed?

You need to be prepared to work hard and meet deadlines.
You have to have an ability to use workshop tools, machinery and materials independently and safely.
You should have a good level of design skills (hand drawings and CAD design) and enjoy generating and developing design ideas.

## Why study this course?

This AQA GCSE course allows a real-life application of Mathematics and Science skills and knowledge. Everything around you and everything that you use every single day has been designed and manufactured to make your life accessible and more comfortable. If you have a passion for designing and making things or solving problems this GCSE will challenge your creativity and engineering skills.

You might be interested in going on to become an architect, interior designer, furniture/ product designer, engineer or the next James Dyson or Steve Jobs.

## If I have any questions which teacher(s) do I ask?

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